

Problem Set 5: Axiomatic Verification

Hints and Notes

1. Consider the assertion of *weak* correctness: $\{z < 0\} \text{ s } \{y = z + 1\}$. Which of the following observations/facts would allow one to deduce that the assertion is FALSE and which would not? Consider the observations individually and briefly justify your answer for each.

- a. When the initial value of z is 3, the value of y is 4 when s terminates.
- b. When the initial value of z is -1, the value of y is 17 when s terminates.
- c. When the initial value of z is -3, the program does not terminate.

1. Consider the assertion of *weak* correctness: $\{z < 0\} \text{ s } \{y = z + 1\}$. Which of the following observations/facts would allow one to deduce that the assertion is FALSE and which would not? Consider the observations individually and briefly justify your answer for each.

- a. When the initial value of z is 3, the value of y is 4 when s terminates. Wound not: pre-condition not satisfied
- b. When the initial value of z is -1, the value of y is 17 when s terminates.
- c. When the initial value of z is -3, the program does not terminate.

1. Consider the assertion of *weak* correctness: $\{z < 0\} \text{ s } \{y = z + 1\}$. Which of the following observations/facts would allow one to deduce that the assertion is FALSE and which would not? Consider the observations individually and briefly justify your answer for each.

a. When the initial value of z is 3, the value of y is 4 when s terminates. Wound not: pre-condition not satisfied

→ b. When the initial value of z is -1, the value of y is 17 when s terminates.

c. When the initial value of z is -3, the program does not terminate.

1. Consider the assertion of *weak* correctness:
 $\{z < 0\} \text{ s } \{y = z + 1\}$. Which of the following
observations/facts would allow one to deduce that
the assertion is FALSE and which would not?
Consider the observations individually and briefly
justify your answer for each.

a. When the initial value of z is 3, the value of y is 4
when s terminates. Wound not: pre-condition not satisfied

→ b. When the initial value of z is -1, the value of y is 17
when s terminates. Wound not: Q may or may not hold in this case

c. When the initial value of z is -3, the program does not
terminate.

1. Consider the assertion of *weak* correctness:
 $\{z < 0\} \text{ s } \{y = z + 1\}$. Which of the following
observations/facts would allow one to deduce that
the assertion is FALSE and which would not?
Consider the observations individually and briefly
justify your answer for each.

a. When the initial value of z is 3, the value of y is 4
when s terminates. Wound not: pre-condition not satisfied

b. When the initial value of z is -1, the value of y is 17
when s terminates. Wound not: Q may or may not hold in this case

→ c. When the initial value of z is -3, the program does not
terminate.

1. Consider the assertion of *weak* correctness:
 $\{z < 0\} \text{ s } \{y = z + 1\}$. Which of the following
observations/facts would allow one to deduce that
the assertion is FALSE and which would not?
Consider the observations individually and briefly
justify your answer for each.

a. When the initial value of z is 3, the value of y is 4
when s terminates. Wound not: pre-condition not satisfied

b. When the initial value of z is -1, the value of y is 17
when s terminates. Wound not: Q may or may not hold in this case

→ c. When the initial value of z is -3, the program does not
terminate. Wound not: weak correctness does not require termination

2.

{x>y}

temp := x

x := y

y := temp

if temp>z then

 y := z

 z := temp

 if x>y then

 temp := x

 x := y

 y := temp

 end_if

 end_if

{x≤y≤z}

2.

$\{x > y\}$

temp := x

$\{temp = x \wedge x > y\}$

x := y

y := temp

if temp > z then

y := z

z := temp

if x > y then

temp := x

x := y

y := temp

end_if

end_if

$\{x \leq y \leq z\}$

2.

$\{x > y\}$

temp := x

$\{temp = x \wedge x > y\}$

x := y

$\{x = y \wedge temp = x' \wedge x' > y\}$

y := temp

if temp > z then

y := z

z := temp

if x > y then

temp := x

x := y

y := temp

end_if

end_if

$\{x \leq y \leq z\}$

2.

$\{x > y\}$

temp := x

$\{temp = x \wedge x > y\}$

x := y

$\{x = y \wedge temp = x' \wedge x' > y\}$

y := temp

$\{y = temp \wedge x = y' \wedge temp = x' \wedge x' > y'\} \Rightarrow \{y = temp \wedge temp > x\}$

if temp > z then

y := z

z := temp

if x > y then

temp := x

x := y

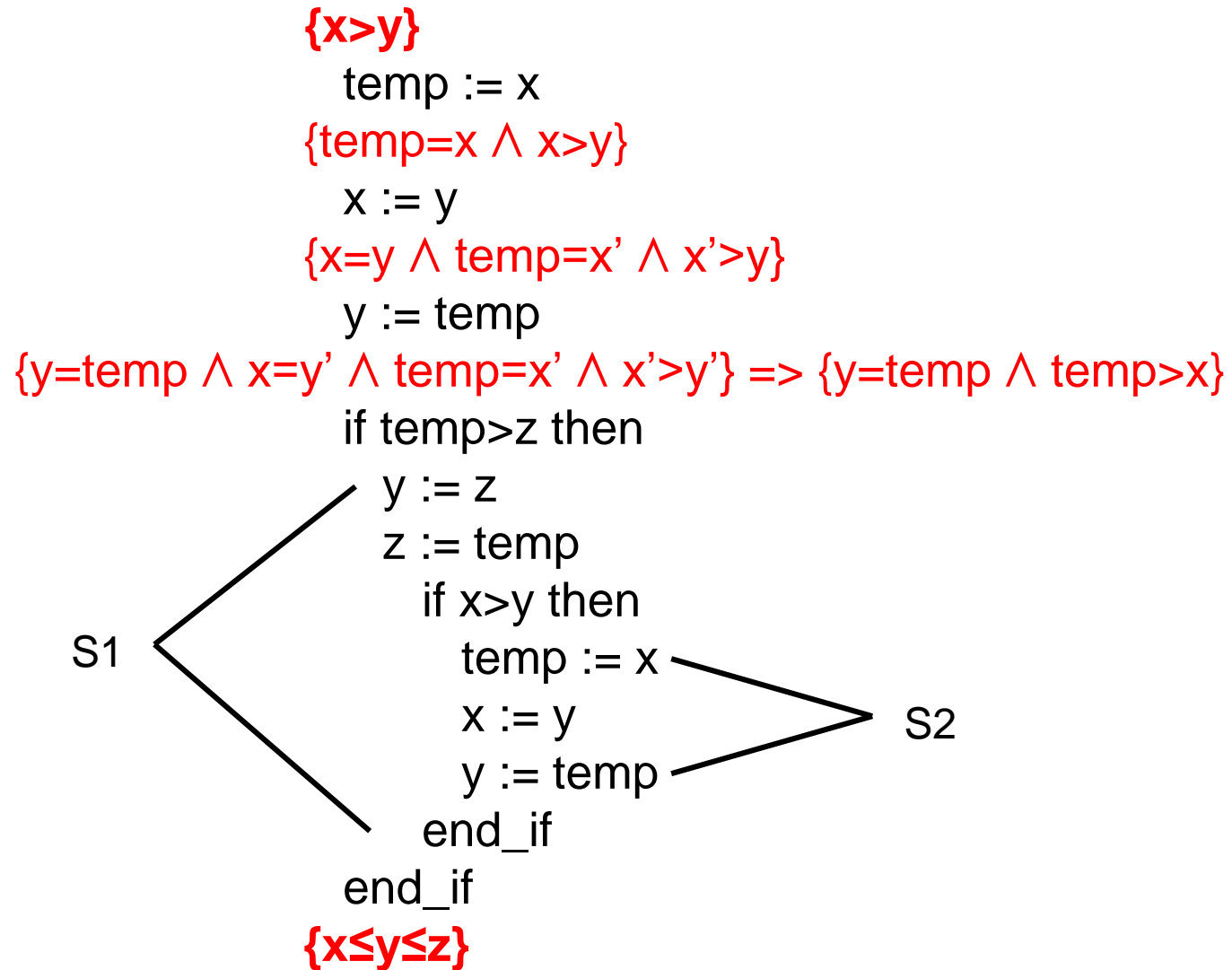
y := temp

end_if

end_if

$\{x \leq y \leq z\}$

2.



2. (cont'd)

$\{y=temp \wedge temp > x\}$ if $temp > z$ then S1 $\{x \leq y \leq z\}$

2. (cont'd)

$\{y=temp \wedge temp > x\}$ if $temp > z$ then S1 $\{x \leq y \leq z\}$

Using the if-then ROI, we need to show:

(1) $\{y=temp \wedge temp > x \wedge temp > z\}$ S1 $\{x \leq y \leq z\}$?

(2) $(y=temp \wedge temp > x \wedge temp \leq z) \Rightarrow x < y \leq z \Rightarrow Q \checkmark$

2. (cont'd)

$\{y=temp \wedge temp>x\}$ if $temp>z$ then S1 $\{x\leq y\leq z\}$

Using the if-then ROI, we need to show:

(1) $\{y=temp \wedge temp>x \wedge temp>z\}$ S1 $\{x\leq y\leq z\}$?

(2) $(y=temp \wedge temp>x \wedge temp\leq z) \Rightarrow x<y\leq z \Rightarrow Q \checkmark$

For (1) above we have: $\{y=temp \wedge temp>x \wedge temp>z\}$

$y := z$

$z := temp$

if $x>y$ then S2

$\{x\leq y\leq z\}$?

2. (cont'd)

$\{y=temp \wedge temp>x\}$ if $temp>z$ then S1 $\{x\leq y\leq z\}$

Using the if-then ROI, we need to show:

(1) $\{y=temp \wedge temp>x \wedge temp>z\}$ S1 $\{x\leq y\leq z\}$?

(2) $(y=temp \wedge temp>x \wedge temp\leq z) \Rightarrow x<y\leq z \Rightarrow Q \checkmark$

For (1) above we have: $\{y=temp \wedge temp>x \wedge temp>z\}$

$y := z$

$\{y=z \wedge y'=temp \wedge temp>x \wedge temp>z\}$

$z := temp$

if $x>y$ then S2

$\{x\leq y\leq z\}$?

2. (cont'd)

$\{y=temp \wedge temp>x\}$ if $temp>z$ then S1 $\{x\leq y\leq z\}$

Using the if-then ROI, we need to show:

(1) $\{y=temp \wedge temp>x \wedge temp>z\}$ S1 $\{x\leq y\leq z\}$?

(2) $(y=temp \wedge temp>x \wedge temp\leq z) \Rightarrow x<y\leq z \Rightarrow Q \checkmark$

For (1) above we have: $\{y=temp \wedge temp>x \wedge temp>z\}$

$y := z$

$\{y=z \wedge y'=temp \wedge temp>x \wedge temp>z\}$

$z := temp$

$\{z=temp \wedge y=z' \wedge y'=temp \wedge temp>x \wedge temp>z'\} \Rightarrow \{z=temp \wedge temp>x \wedge temp>y\}$

if $x>y$ then S2

$\{x\leq y\leq z\}$?

2. (cont'd)

$\{y=temp \wedge temp>x\}$ if $temp>z$ then S1 $\{x\leq y\leq z\}$

Using the if-then ROI, we need to show:

(1) $\{y=temp \wedge temp>x \wedge temp>z\}$ S1 $\{x\leq y\leq z\}$?

(2) $(y=temp \wedge temp>x \wedge temp\leq z) \Rightarrow x<y\leq z \Rightarrow Q \checkmark$

For (1) above we have: $\{y=temp \wedge temp>x \wedge temp>z\}$

$y := z$

$\{y=z \wedge y'=temp \wedge temp>x \wedge temp>z\}$

$z := temp$

$\{z=temp \wedge y=z' \wedge y'=temp \wedge temp>x \wedge temp>z'\} \Rightarrow \{z=temp \wedge temp>x \wedge temp>y\}$

if $x>y$ then S2

$\{x\leq y\leq z\}$?

for which the if-then ROI may be used a second time.

3. Prove the following assertion using the While-Loop Rule of Inference. Show all steps.

$\{N \geq 1\}$

Found := false

Index := N

while (Index > 0 & (not Found)) do

 if Key = List[Index] then

 Found := true

 else

 Index := Index - 1

 end_if_else

end_while

$\{(Found \wedge Key = List[Index]) \vee$
 $(\sim Found \wedge \forall 1 \leq i \leq N \bullet Key \neq List[i])\}$

3. Prove the following assertion using the While-Loop Rule of Inference. Show all steps.

$\{N \geq 1\}$

Found := false

Index := N

while (Index > 0 & (not Found)) do

 if Key = List[Index] then

 Found := true

 else

 Index := Index - 1

 end_if_else

end_while

$\{(Found \wedge Key = List[Index]) \vee$
 $(\sim Found \wedge \forall 1 \leq i \leq N \bullet Key \neq List[i])\}$

What invariant, I, can be used to prove this?

3. Prove the following assertion using the While-Loop Rule of Inference. Show all steps.

$\{N \geq 1\}$

Found := false

Index := N

while (Index > 0 & (not Found)) do

 if Key = List[Index] then

 Found := true

 else

 Index := Index - 1

 end_if_else

end_while

$\{(Found \wedge Key = List[Index]) \vee$

$(\sim Found \wedge \forall 1 \leq i \leq N \bullet Key \neq List[i])\}$

$I = (Found \wedge \dots) \vee (\sim Found \wedge \dots)$

3. Prove the following assertion using the While-Loop Rule of Inference. Show all steps.

$\{N \geq 1\}$

Found := false

Index := N

while (Index > 0 & (not Found)) do

 if Key = List[Index] then

 Found := true

 else

 Index := Index - 1

 end_if_else

end_while

$\{(Found \wedge Key = List[Index]) \vee$

$(\sim Found \wedge \forall 1 \leq i \leq N \bullet Key \neq List[i])\}$

$I = (Found \wedge Key = List[Index]) \vee$
 $(\sim Found \wedge \dots)$

3. Prove the following assertion using the While-Loop Rule of Inference. Show all steps.

$\{N \geq 1\}$

Found := false

Index := N

while (Index > 0 & (not Found)) do

 if Key = List[Index] then

 Found := true

 else

 Index := Index - 1

 end_if_else

end_while

$\{(Found \wedge Key = List[Index]) \vee$

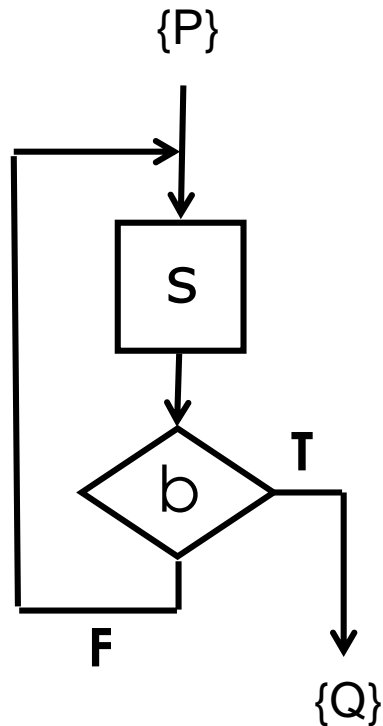
$(\sim Found \wedge \forall 1 \leq i \leq N \bullet Key \neq List[i])\}$

$I = (Found \wedge Key = List[Index]) \vee$

$(\sim Found \wedge \forall Index < i \leq N, Key \neq List[i])$

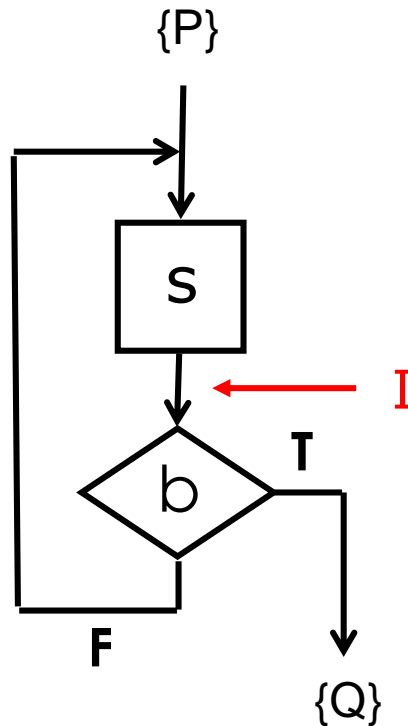
4. Prove the following assertion using a suitable Rule of Inference for the Repeat_Until-Loop. Clearly state the Rule of Inference and show all steps. (Hint: Do NOT include $P \Rightarrow I$ as an antecedent in your rule.)

4. Prove the following assertion using a suitable Rule of Inference for the Repeat_Until-Loop. Clearly state the Rule of Inference and show all steps. (Hint: Do NOT include $P \Rightarrow I$ as an antecedent in your rule.)



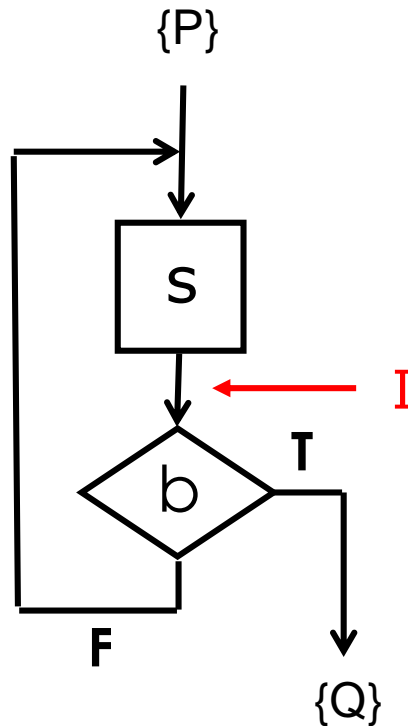
$\{P\}$ repeat s until b $\{Q\}$

4. Prove the following assertion using a suitable Rule of Inference for the Repeat_Until-Loop. Clearly state the Rule of Inference and show all steps. (Hint: Do NOT include $P \Rightarrow I$ as an antecedent in your rule.)



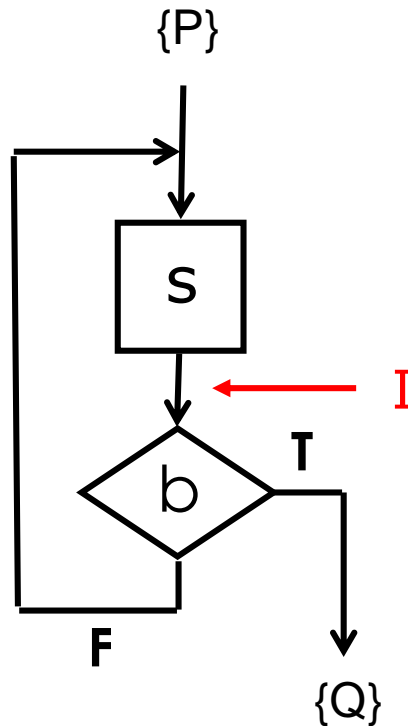
$\{P\}$ repeat s until b $\{Q\}$

4. Prove the following assertion using a suitable Rule of Inference for the Repeat_Until-Loop. Clearly state the Rule of Inference and show all steps. (Hint: Do NOT include $P \Rightarrow I$ as an antecedent in your rule.)


$$\{P\} s \{I\},$$

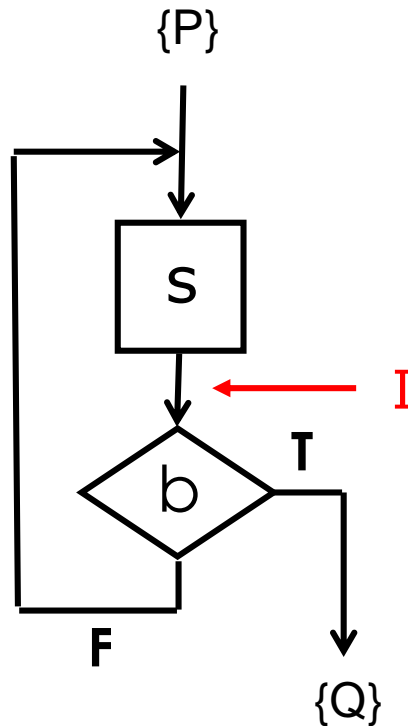
$$\{P\} \text{ repeat } s \text{ until } b \{Q\}$$

4. Prove the following assertion using a suitable Rule of Inference for the Repeat_Until-Loop. Clearly state the Rule of Inference and show all steps. (Hint: Do NOT include $P \Rightarrow I$ as an antecedent in your rule.)


$$\{P\} s \{I\}, \{I \wedge \sim b\} s \{I\},$$

$$\{P\} \text{ repeat } s \text{ until } b \{Q\}$$

4. Prove the following assertion using a suitable Rule of Inference for the Repeat_Until-Loop. Clearly state the Rule of Inference and show all steps. (Hint: Do NOT include $P \Rightarrow I$ as an antecedent in your rule.)




$$\frac{\{P\} \text{ s } \{I\}, \{I \wedge \sim b\} \text{ s } \{I\}, (I \wedge b) \Rightarrow Q}{\{P\} \text{ repeat s until b } \{Q\}}$$

$\{N \geq 1 \wedge \text{iorder}\}$ (where $\text{iorder} = \forall 1 \leq i < N \bullet \text{List}[i] \geq \text{List}[i+1]$)

```
First := 1
Last := N
Found := false
repeat
  Index := (First + Last) div 2
  if Key = List[Index] then
    Found := true
  else
    if Key < List[Index] then
      First := Index + 1
    else
      Last := Index - 1
    end-if-else
  end-if-else
until (Found or First > Last)
```

$\{(\text{Found} \wedge \text{Key} = \text{List}[\text{Index}]) \vee (\sim \text{Found} \wedge \forall 1 \leq i \leq N \bullet \text{key} \neq \text{List}[i])\}$

$\{N \geq 1 \wedge \text{iorder}\}$ (where $\text{iorder} = \forall 1 \leq i < N \bullet \text{List}[i] \geq \text{List}[i+1]$)

P  First := 1
Last := N
Found := false
repeat
 Index := (First + Last) div 2
 if Key = List[Index] then
 Found := true
 else
 if Key < List[Index] then
 First := Index + 1
 else
 Last := Index - 1
 end-if-else
 end-if-else
until (Found or First > Last)

$\{(\text{Found} \wedge \text{Key} = \text{List}[\text{Index}]) \vee (\sim \text{Found} \wedge \forall 1 \leq i \leq N \bullet \text{key} \neq \text{List}[i])\}$

$\{N \geq 1 \wedge \text{iorder}\}$ (where $\text{iorder} = \forall 1 \leq i < N \cdot \text{List}[i] \geq \text{List}[i+1]$)

$P \rightarrow$

```
First := 1
Last := N
Found := false
repeat
  Index := (First + Last) div 2
  if Key = List[Index] then
    Found := true
  else
    if Key < List[Index] then
      First := Index + 1
    else
      Last := Index - 1
    end-if-else
  end-if-else
until (Found or First > Last)  $I \leftarrow$ 
```

$\{(\text{Found} \wedge \text{Key} = \text{List}[\text{Index}]) \vee (\sim \text{Found} \wedge \forall 1 \leq i \leq N \cdot \text{key} \neq \text{List}[i])\}$

$\{N \geq 1 \wedge \text{iorder}\}$ (where $\text{iorder} = \forall 1 \leq i < N \cdot \text{List}[i] \geq \text{List}[i+1]$)

$P \rightarrow$

```
First := 1
Last := N
Found := false
repeat
  Index := (First + Last) div 2
  if Key = List[Index] then
    Found := true
  else
    if Key < List[Index] then
      First := Index + 1
    else
      Last := Index - 1
    end-if-else
  end-if-else
until (Found or First > Last)
```

What is "I"?

$\{(\text{Found} \wedge \text{Key} = \text{List}[\text{Index}]) \vee (\sim \text{Found} \wedge \forall 1 \leq i \leq N \cdot \text{key} \neq \text{List}[i])\}$

$\{N \geq 1 \wedge \text{iorder}\}$ (where $\text{iorder} = \forall 1 \leq i < N \cdot \text{List}[i] \geq \text{List}[i+1]$)

$P \longrightarrow$

```
First := 1
Last := N
Found := false
repeat
  Index := (First + Last) div 2
  if Key = List[Index] then
    Found := true
  else
    if Key < List[Index] then
      First := Index + 1
    else
      Last := Index - 1
    end-if-else
  end-if-else
until (Found or First > Last)
```



What is "I"?

$[(\text{Found} \wedge \dots) \vee (\sim \text{Found} \wedge \dots)]$
 $\wedge \dots$

$I \longleftarrow$

$\{(\text{Found} \wedge \text{Key} = \text{List}[\text{Index}]) \vee (\sim \text{Found} \wedge \forall 1 \leq i \leq N \cdot \text{key} \neq \text{List}[i])\}$

$\{N \geq 1 \wedge \text{iorder}\}$ (where $\text{iorder} = \forall 1 \leq i < N \cdot \text{List}[i] \geq \text{List}[i+1]$)



P  First := 1
Last := N
Found := false
repeat
 Index := (First + Last) div 2
 if Key = List[Index] then
 Found := true
 else
 if Key < List[Index] then
 First := Index + 1
 else
 Last := Index - 1
 end-if-else
 end-if-else
until (Found or First > Last)  **I**

What is "I"?

$[(\text{Found} \wedge \dots) \vee (\sim \text{Found} \wedge \dots)]$
 $\wedge \text{iorder}$

$\{(\text{Found} \wedge \text{Key} = \text{List}[\text{Index}]) \vee (\sim \text{Found} \wedge \forall 1 \leq i \leq N \cdot \text{key} \neq \text{List}[i])\}$

$\{N \geq 1 \wedge \text{iorder}\}$ (where $\text{iorder} = \forall 1 \leq i < N \cdot \text{List}[i] \geq \text{List}[i+1]$)



P  First := 1
Last := N
Found := false
repeat
 Index := (First + Last) div 2
 if Key = List[Index] then
 Found := true
 else
 if Key < List[Index] then
 First := Index + 1
 else
 Last := Index - 1
 end-if-else
 end-if-else
until (Found or First > Last)  I

What is "I"?

$[(\text{Found} \wedge \text{Key} = \text{List}[\text{Index}]) \vee (\sim \text{Found} \wedge \dots)]$
 $\wedge \text{iorder}$

$\{(\text{Found} \wedge \text{Key} = \text{List}[\text{Index}]) \vee (\sim \text{Found} \wedge \forall 1 \leq i \leq N \cdot \text{key} \neq \text{List}[i])\}$

$\{N \geq 1 \wedge \text{iorder}\}$ (where $\text{iorder} = \forall 1 \leq i < N \cdot \text{List}[i] \geq \text{List}[i+1]$)

P  First := 1
Last := N
Found := false
repeat
 Index := (First + Last) div 2
 if Key = List[Index] then
 Found := true
 else
 if Key < List[Index] then
 First := Index + 1
 else
 Last := Index - 1
 end-if-else
 end-if-else
until (Found or First > Last)  **I**

What is "I"?

$[(\text{Found} \wedge \text{Key} = \text{List}[\text{Index}]) \vee (\sim \text{Found} \wedge \forall ? \leq i \leq ? \cdot \text{Key} \neq \text{List}[i])] \wedge \text{iorder}$

$\{(\text{Found} \wedge \text{Key} = \text{List}[\text{Index}]) \vee (\sim \text{Found} \wedge \forall 1 \leq i \leq N \cdot \text{key} \neq \text{List}[i])\}$

$\{N \geq 1 \wedge \text{iorder}\}$ (where $\text{iorder} = \forall 1 \leq i < N \cdot \text{List}[i] \geq \text{List}[i+1]$)

P \longrightarrow

```
First := 1
Last := N
Found := false
repeat
  Index := (First + Last) div 2
  if Key = List[Index] then
    Found := true
  else
    if Key < List[Index] then
      First := Index + 1
    else
      Last := Index - 1
    end-if-else
  end-if-else
until (Found or First > Last)
```

What is "I"?

$[(\text{Found} \wedge \text{Key} = \text{List}[\text{Index}]) \vee$
 $(\sim \text{Found} \wedge \forall i \in [1, \text{First}) \cup (\text{Last}, N] \cdot \text{Key} \neq \text{List}[i])] \wedge \text{iorder}$

\longleftarrow I

$\{(\text{Found} \wedge \text{Key} = \text{List}[\text{Index}]) \vee (\sim \text{Found} \wedge \forall 1 \leq i \leq N \cdot \text{key} \neq \text{List}[i])\}$

6. Consider the following HYPOTHESIZED rules of inference for the "while" construct:

$$\text{a.} \quad \frac{P \Rightarrow (\sim b \wedge Q)}{\text{-----?}} \\ \{P\} \text{ while } b \text{ do } s \{Q\}$$

$$\text{b.} \quad \frac{\{P \wedge b\} s \{I\}, \{I \wedge b\} s \{I\}, (I \wedge \sim b) \Rightarrow Q}{\text{-----?}} \\ \{P\} \text{ while } b \text{ do } s \{Q\}$$

...Clearly indicate whether or not the rule is **valid**. If valid, provide an assertion of the form $\{P\}$ while b do S $\{Q\}$ for which it *could* be used. If not valid, prove this by providing a counterexample.

6. Consider the following HYPOTHESIZED rules of inference for the "while" construct:

$$\text{a.} \quad \frac{P \Rightarrow (\sim b \wedge Q)}{\text{-----?}} \{P\} \text{ while } b \text{ do } s \{Q\}$$

$$\text{b.} \quad \frac{\{P \wedge b\} s \{I\}, \{I \wedge b\} s \{I\}, (I \wedge \sim b) \Rightarrow Q}{\text{-----?}} \{P\} \text{ while } b \text{ do } s \{Q\}$$

...Clearly indicate whether or not the rule is **valid**. If valid, provide an assertion of the form $\{P\}$ while b do S $\{Q\}$ for which it *could* be used. If not valid, prove this by providing a counterexample.

6. Consider the following HYPOTHESIZED rules of inference for the "while" construct:

a.
$$\frac{P \Rightarrow (\sim b \wedge Q)}{\{P\} \text{ while } b \text{ do } s \{Q\}} ?$$

The rule is valid, since the antecedent implies that whenever the pre-condition, P , holds, the false branch will be executed and Q holds. The rule could be employed, for example, to prove:

$\{x=17\} \text{ while } x < 0 \text{ do } x := 0 \{x > 0\}$

6. Consider the following HYPOTHESIZED rules of inference for the "while" construct:

$$\text{b.} \quad \frac{\{P \wedge b\} s \{I\}, \{I \wedge b\} s \{I\}, (I \wedge \sim b) \Rightarrow Q}{\{P\} \text{ while } b \text{ do } s \{Q\}}?$$

...Clearly indicate whether or not the rule is **valid**. If valid, provide an assertion of the form $\{P\}$ while b do S $\{Q\}$ for which it *could* be used. If not valid, prove this by providing a counterexample.

6. Consider the following HYPOTHESIZED rules of inference for the "while" construct:

b.
$$\frac{\{P \wedge b\} s \{I\}, \{I \wedge b\} s \{I\}, (I \wedge \sim b) \Rightarrow Q}{\{P\} \text{ while } b \text{ do } s \{Q\}}?$$

...Clearly indicate whether or not the rule is **valid**. If valid, provide an assertion of the form $\{P\}$ while b do S $\{Q\}$ for which it *could* be used. If not valid, prove this by providing a counterexample.

6. Consider the following HYPOTHESIZED rules of inference for the "while" construct:

b.
$$\frac{\{P \wedge b\} s \{I\}, \{I \wedge b\} s \{I\}, (I \wedge \sim b) \Rightarrow Q}{\{P\} \text{ while } b \text{ do } s \{Q\}}?$$

The rule is **NOT valid**. (Why?)

.

6. Consider the following HYPOTHESIZED rules of inference for the "while" construct:

b.
$$\frac{\{P \wedge b\} s \{I\}, \{I \wedge b\} s \{I\}, (I \wedge \sim b) \Rightarrow Q}{\{P\} \text{ while } b \text{ do } s \{Q\}}?$$

The rule is **NOT valid**. (Why?)

Question: How can this be *proven* using a *counterexample*?

6. Consider the following HYPOTHESIZED rules of inference for the "while" construct:

$$\text{b.} \quad \frac{\{P \wedge b\} s \{I\}, \{I \wedge b\} s \{I\}, (I \wedge \sim b) \Rightarrow Q}{\{P\} \text{ while } b \text{ do } s \{Q\}}?$$

The rule is **NOT valid**. (Why?)

Question: How can this be *proven* using a *counterexample*?

Answer: (1) Identify a specific, concrete program of the form while b do s together with pre- and post-conditions such that **$\{P\}$ while b do s $\{Q\}$ does NOT hold**. (2) Identify an invariant I such that **all three antecedents of the rule DO hold**. This proves that the rule is not valid for the same reason that $x=4$ serves as a counterexample proving the rule: **$["x \text{ is even}" \Rightarrow x > 10]$ is not valid**.

6. Consider the following HYPOTHESIZED rules of inference for the "while" construct:

b.
$$\frac{\{P \wedge b\} s \{I\}, \{I \wedge b\} s \{I\}, (I \wedge \sim b) \Rightarrow Q}{\{P\} \text{ while } b \text{ do } s \{Q\}}?$$

The rule is NOT valid. Proof:

$\{y \neq 17\}$ $I: y=17$
 while $x > 0$ do
 $y := 17$
 $x := x - 1$
 end_while
 $\{y = 17\}$

The three antecedents hold for the invariant $y=17$ but the consequent does not since the initial value of x may be ≤ 0 initially, in which case Q would not hold on termination.

Problem Set 5: Axiomatic Verification

Hints and Notes